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“Before Him Shall be Gathered All the Nations”

Y. W. C. A.

Association Life the World Around

BY THE FOREIGN DEPARTMENT
NATIONAL BOARD YOUNG WOMENS CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

NATIONAL BOARD
OF THE
YOUNG WOMENS CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
600 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK
1914

ASSOCIATION LIFE THE WORLD AROUND

By the Foreign Department
National Board Young Womens Christian Associations
United States

WORLD'S YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

The Young Women's Christian Association is the most international, most inclusive in faith, broadest in scope, largest and most democratic organization of women in the world.

The World's organization is an affiliation of NATIONS in which the work of the Young Women's Christian Associations is done.

Its headquarters are in London.

The World's Association is a clearing house and council of reference in all matters affecting Association work in two or more countries.

The committee also takes the initiative in opening work in unorganized nations.

The resident executive committee of the World's Association is British. The World's traveling secretary is American.

Eighteen countries with organized national work have part in the World's Association and scattered branches are found in fifteen additional countries.

Every four years is held a conference of World's Associations. This year the conference meets in Stockholm, Sweden, June 10-18.

The foreign work of each country is conducted by a specially organized department under its own national direction. Membership of the World's Association is 600,000.

The number of branches is about 8,000.

Membership in the United States is 280,597.

In the foreign work, Great Britain supplies 28 secretaries; Canada 1; United States 32; Australia 1; Germany 1.



TRAINING SCHOOL
135 EAST 52D STREET

HEADQUARTERS BUILDINGS
OF THE
NATIONAL BOARD OF THE YOUNG WOMENS CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
600 LEXINGTON AVENUE

UNITED STATES

The Young Women's Christian Association of the United States is under the direction of a National Board.

This Board is composed of thirty members resident in New York City, and of a certain number of non-resident members representing various territorial divisions of the United States.

The United States is divided for efficiency, economy and facility of work into eleven fields, each of which is directed by its own committee.

The national work is divided into eight departments co-ordinated for undertaking the following:

Training of secretaries.

Publications to meet the need of the field.

Work in foreign lands.

Summer conferences and conventions.

Procuring and dispensing of the necessary funds.

General supervision of organizations in cities, colleges, in rural districts, in industrial centers, among professional women, among colored women, among Indian women, among immigrant women.

Number of city and town Associations, 216.

Number of student Associations, 684.

Number of county Associations, 8.

During 1913 there were eleven summer conferences with a total enrollment of 4,131, representing 191 cities and 552 colleges.

The national budget for 1914 is \$434,000. Of this \$40,802.50 is assigned for foreign work.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT OF THE NATIONAL BOARD OF THE YOUNG WOMENS CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES

Personnel of Committee:

Miss Maude Daeniker	Miss Gertrude MacArthur	Miss Annie Reynolds	Miss Bertha Condé
Mrs. R. A. Dorman	Mrs. Frederick Mead	Mrs. Finley J. Shepard	Miss Caroline B. Dow
Mrs. John French	Mrs. John R. Mott	Mrs. William F. Slocum	Miss Harriet Taylor
Mrs. Thomas S. Gladding	Miss Grace Dodge	Mrs. Augustus B. Wadsworth	Miss Susan Clute

The foreign department trains, commissions and supports secretaries in non-self-supporting countries. These secretaries are sent out on request from the national committees in these countries, and they are directed in their work by the committee of the country to which they go.

American secretaries now abroad:

INDIA

Beatrice Cron,
Margery Melcher,
Mary E. Rutherford, *Calcutta.*

Florence Denison,
Martha C. Whealdon,
Marie B. Snow, *Bombay.*

Lela Guitner (*on furlough*),
Madras.

Jessie E. Mather, *Allahabad.*

Florence Bodley Lang,
Colombo, Ceylon.

Laura Radford,
Singapore, Straits Settlement.

CHINA

Grace L. Coppock,
Abby Shaw Mayhew,
Harriet M. Smith,
Ruth Paxson,
Frances L. Taft,
Jane S. Ward, *Shanghai.*

Katharine King,
Theresa Severin, *Peking.*

*Mary P. Banks,
Henrietta Thomson, *Canton.*

Helen Bond Crane,
Edith May Wells,
Ponasing, Foochow.

Ethel Pyke,
Evelyn Thayer Derry, *Tientsin.*

*Loaned by Presbyterian Mission

JAPAN

Margaret Matthew (*on furlough*),
Mary Page,
Mary C. Baker,
Ruth Ragan, *Tokyo.*

SOUTH AMERICA

Mary L. Thomas (*on furlough*),
Irene Sheppard (*on furlough*),
Persis M. Breed,
Elisa Cortez, *Buenos Aires, Argentina.*

TURKEY

Frances C. Gage,
Marsoran, Turkey-in-Asia.
Anna Welles, *Constantinople.*



WHERE WEST
MEETS EAST

ORIENTAL STUDENTS
AT SILVER BAY
CONFERENCE
1913

Total number of Oriental students in the United States is 101; of these 51 attended the summer conferences of 1913. The United States has unique opportunity and responsibility to the Oriental students in her colleges and universities.

JAPAN

“For fifty years Japan has been straining every nerve in her effort to go into every nation and find there the best, to bring it back and build it into her own life. . . . The result so far is such that Japan now feels herself better equipped materially than spiritually.”

Dr. John R. Mott has said that he feels that the student field of Japan is now as eager for the gospel as it ever was in the early times of the great religious awakening there.

Japan has had an extensive educational system for women for more than a quarter of a century. This includes schools of higher learning. There are now many educated women in Japan remarkable in their willingness to lead the movement for young women.

The industrial condition in Japan has, during the last ten years, developed much like that in America. These women in industry are facing lives for which tradition and training leave them utterly unprepared. There are great opportunities for work among industrially employed women.

Japan is the first foreign country to call and support a National Secretary, a Japanese, who is a graduate of Bryn Mawr. The National Committee, the Summer Conference and Magazine Committee are almost entirely Japanese.

The work in Japan includes eighteen student branches, and organized work in two cities, with a total membership of about 2,000.

The Eighth Annual Student Conference of 228 delegates was held during the past year.

The monthly magazine has now a circulation of about 1,000. It is printed in Japanese.

JAPAN



Drawing Room and Library, National Headquarters

YOKOHAMA

Eight thousand Japanese women are engaged in shops, offices and industries in this one important port city of Japan.

Owing to the demand of both employers and employees for more suitable protection and accommodation for Japanese young women, the Association began an indigenous work in Yokohama.

It has its own building with a Japanese secretary in charge.



Group at Japanese Summer Conference, 1913

TOKYO

The capital of Japan is a rendezvous of students, having in its educational institutions 15,000 girls and women.

With the impact of East and West social conditions in Tokyo create conditions of great difficulty to the student body who, released from the restraint of home, find little beyond themselves to guide them in their expanding experience.

Two student hostels, one supplied by the Overtoun fund and one by Ottawa, Canada, have in their enrollment representatives from over one-half the schools of Tokyo. The matrons of the hostels are Japanese.

A third hostel provided by Vassar College is under construction.

Twenty-seven Bible classes for students have an enrollment of 240.

The social work of the Tokyo Association is one of its most effective departments. A "social center" is being planned in the heart of the student residence district.

A work among Japanese nurses in Tokyo is in its inception.

There is a pension or residential club conducted by the Association and open to foreigners:—i. e. Western women in Tokyo.

TOKYO



Nurses in Bible Class

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

India is a country of fifty nations within a nation, under British rule, with the English language the general medium of communication.

There are three classes of the population:

1. Colonial: British people in official or business positions in India.
2. *Anglo-Indian: A people of mixed blood, who form a distinct social class.
3. Indians—including Hindus, Mohammedans, Parsees and Christians.

A strong tendency to hold to religions of the nation—Brahmanism, Buddhism, Mohammedanism, to racial pride and philosophic superiority—is slowly yielding to modern thought. Whether holding governmental or nationalistic sympathies, all thinking men of India concede that India's need is something that will meet the growing unrest of its divergent populace.

There are under the Indian National Committee seventeen city Associations, in the work in seven of which America has a share.

The number of student branches is 58, many of which exist in the principal mission schools of the empire. Twenty-four student branches are among Indian young women.

The whole of India has 300 young women in institutions of college standing—these all can be surrounded by Christian influence at the present time.

Student and city camps for young women are held annually.

The National Committee of India publishes helps for its Association members in English and in several vernacular languages.

India has its own national publication called "The Young Women of India."

*Anglo-Indian—This term was adopted in 1913 by the British government in India to supersede the term "Eurasian."

INDIA



Street in Indian City

MADRAS



A Social Gathering

Situated in heat-baked South India, Madras stands third in population among Indian cities.

Madras has a population of 3,000 Anglo-Indians.

Association work has been carried on for twenty-one years in Madras.

Ten branches of work, some of which are for Tamil young women, are carried on in eight sections of the city.

Two student hostels are crowded, one being for Indian students, and one for Europeans and Anglo-Indians.

Madras has its own news sheet for its membership of 738.

Its mission-study classes include the study of the Indian religions.

ALLAHABAD

This city is in the Central Provinces of India ; they cover an area equal to that of the British Isles.

Its population is 118,000.

The activities of the Association include educational classes, fortnightly socials, tennis, badminton, cooking, debates, lectures, Bible classes and physical work.

Four Bible classes are conducted in the vernacular.

The girl guides are a distinctive feature of the Allahabad work.



Association Building

BOMBAY



Parsee Ladies

The Parsees are of Persian origin and form a distinctively high class of society. The universities of Great Britain have a special mission to Parsee students.

Bombay, on the west coast of India, is the city from which Mohammedan pilgrimages start to Mecca.

It was the first city of India to own its own building.

The provision the Association makes for the home life of the young women is supported by the entire community.

It has a membership of 751 enrolled in five branches. The Association home accommodates 84 residents.

Twenty Bible classes are held weekly.

In the hills it maintains a holiday home for its members.

Three Indian Bible women are employed to work in the mills.

Bombay has the beginning of physical work.

CALCUTTA

This city on the east coast of India is a great student center.

Its population is 1,000,000.

There are 10,000 girls in the schools but few of them are over sixteen years of age.

A graduate union of Indian women students from Indian and American schools numbers 60.

In the membership of the Calcutta Association there are nearly 600 who speak the vernacular languages.

The number of Bible classes in the Association is 27.

Four hundred and five students are members of the Association.

A commercial school and an employment agency are two strong features of the work.



Scarf Drill

LAHORE



Library in Morse Hall

*Morse Hall, the home of the Association, was built in 1912.

It contains rooms for residents and has a large gymnasium.

The government support aids in the establishment of continuous classes.

The subject receiving most attention is typewriting.

Lahore supervises ten branches scattered throughout the Punjab (North India).

There is one student branch—Kin-naird High School.

Miss Lamb, a graduate of the schools of India, has charge of the educational work in Lahore, after spending time in postgraduate study in England and America.

*Morse Hall—This beautiful building is a gift from America to the work in Lahore in memory of Miss Rebecca Morse, the first secretary of the Foreign Department of the Association in America, upon whose foundation the present extensive foreign work is building.

SINGAPORE



A Drive Among the Palms, Singapore

Within two degrees of the equator are gathered on this island of Singapore Europeans, Chinese, many Indian races including Malays, and a large population of mixed parentage.

The Young Women's Christian Association has been in existence in Singapore for twenty years.

An institute or Association home is used by travelers and residents and is a center for educational classes.

House-to-house visitation is reaching many hitherto unreached.

During the past year the membership of the Association has nearly doubled.

COLOMBO

Colombo is the gateway city of the East. Monthly, thousands of travelers set foot on the Isle of Ceylon. Many find their way to the Association doors.

Educational classes are conducted among the business women in various sections of the scattered city.

The number of weekly Bible classes conducted is thirteen.

Two student branches and two student hostels are maintained.



Compound and Building, Colombo

CHINA



National Headquarters

A nation arrested in growth for 1,500 years finds available the ready-made results of progress and labors and faiths of all the nations.

The door is open which no man can shut.

Modern education is causing the old faiths to crumble.

Woman's education is promoted by the government.

Christian missions have prepared hundreds of women who may be developed to lead and guide the awakening among women.

The Young Women's Christian Association has in China four organized city Associations and thirty-one student branches in Christian schools.

Each city Association is in touch with the government and gentry schools of its city, and is supplying Bible



National Office

CHINA

classes, lectures and physical work for the students.

The physical work under the national director of physical education is meeting with welcome from both government authorities and missionaries.

The secretarial staff includes graduates from Manchester University, Girton College, Smith, Wellesley, Bryn Mawr, and Iowa, Nebraska and Michigan State Universities.

Two student conferences were held in 1913.

Official invitations from mission bodies of three other cities for the opening of Association work are in the hands of the National Committee.



Bible Class, Student Conference, 1913

TIENTSIN



Mission College and Street Opposite Association

The Tientsin Association was organized in March, 1913.

Bible classes are weekly conducted in government schools.

The Association is welcomed in a school opened by graduates of the government school.

A physical director is giving part time to the development of physical education.

Tientsin is the educational mecca of North China.

The "metropolis of four provinces," it has a school on each corner and schools between the corners.

Tientsin consists of three cities; an old Chinese city, a modern city built by the Chinese and a foreign settlement.

Government education in the province about Tientsin is the most highly developed of all the eighteen provinces.



Street Scene in Chinese City

FOOCHOW

Foochow City is one of the oldest mission fields in China, and has therefore a large nucleus of Christian Chinese.

The officials in Foochow favor Christianity and welcome any endeavor to instruct its womanhood.

For six years the Christians of Foochow have waited for a response to their invitation for Association secretaries.

One meeting held in March, 1913, for government school girls resulted in over 500 signing on for Bible study.

In this emergency two secretaries were sent to Foochow in May, 1913.

Bible classes are already organized among government school girls, and social and educational work will follow.



River Ming with boats and "Bridge of a Thousand Ages"

SHANGHAI



Some Members of the Shanghai City Board

SHANGHAI

Shanghai is the commercial metropolis for all of China.

Its population is 1,000,000 Chinese, and 12,000 foreigners.

Shanghai city work on its present basis was organized in 1908.

The membership of the Association is approximately 450.

The Bible class enrollment is more than 300.

The educational work of the Association, under a Chinese director, includes cooking, house decoration, mothers' clubs, lectures on hygiene, on modern invention, on famous women, etc.

It has a well-equipped school which seeks to supplement the education provided by the mission schools, admitting young married women and others who cannot comply with the requirements of mission schools.

Physical work of the Association is under the direction of a Chinese.

The Association provides hostel accommodation for five women. During the battles of the past summer thirty women were crowded into the building, taking refuge from the bullets.

Since the beginning the Chinese secretary has been one main source of the strength of the Association. There are now three Chinese secretaries, all of whom had education abroad.

The rented Association building is crowded past crowding; it is totally unsuited to the work of the Association. Search for three years of the available buildings of Shanghai has not resulted in the finding of a suitable house. Hundreds of women could be reached monthly if a building with an audience hall, gymnasium and sufficient number of classrooms were provided. The need of a building for the Shanghai Association is the most pressing need of the work in China today.

CANTON



One of Canton's City Gates

Canton has a population of 2,000,000.

It is the most progressive city in China.

Canton has more hospitals, more women physicians than any other city.

The Association of Canton was organized at the initiative of Chinese ladies alone.

Association headquarters are planned for and supported without the aid of Westerners.

The Presbyterian Mission has loaned one of its experienced workers as secretary for two years.

The Chinese ladies of the Canton Association Board are

eager for a hostel for traveling women; for a membership campaign; for an educational department; for a large social work; for a student hostel; and for the development of Bible classes in government schools.

It is imperative that secretaries be supplied at once to guide in this development.

TURKEY

The Buffer State between East and West, Turkey has been both much and little on the heart of the Christian world.

The era of the young Turk is also the era for the awakening of Turkish womanhood.

Cities of Turkey, schools in Turkey, are comprised of a varying number of races.

Mission schools have provided all the women that are available for leadership in the Christian work among their own peoples.

The World's Student Christian Federation Conference awakened an intelligent interest among Greek, Catholic and Protestant leaders for their student classes.

The Young Women's Christian Association in the fall of 1913 sent two secretaries to Turkey; one for Constantinople, one to travel among the city and student branches in Turkey-in-Asia.



Turkish Women

SOUTH AMERICA

This continent embraces new, mighty and formative nations.

There is one church to which the people give nominal allegiance, while almost totally ignoring any religious claims.

Society has few conventional and moral safeguards for women.

There is a continuously growing stream of young women to the port cities of South America from all the countries of Europe and from the United States.

The whole Protestant Mission Board of South America unites in asserting the need for the Association in South America.

The Young Women's Christian Association is at work in Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro, while invitations have come from two other of South America's great cities for organization and secretaries.



The Cathedral and a Typical Street of Buenos Aires

BUENOS AIRES



A Cooking Class, 15 Nationalities

The city is the metropolis of half the continent.

Its population is one and a quarter million.

It is the largest Spanish-speaking city in the world.

It dominates Argentina. To reach Buenos Aires is to influence the leading republic of South America.

Into its harbor come women from all the nations seeking employment.

The Young Women's Christian Association seeks to create for the young women of Buenos Aires a physical and moral environment that shall meet the needs of their cosmopolitan life.

Limited by the extreme high cost of living, such accommodations as the Association provides for lodging, lunches and educational classes are overcrowded.

One-third of the work is conducted in the Spanish language; two of the secretarial staff are Spanish speaking.

The membership includes women of 23 nations.

OTHER COUNTRIES AFFILIATED WITH WORLD'S COMMITTEE

Africa. This vast continent has distinctive work in North Africa at Cairo, on the British East Coast and on the West Coast, while South Africa has a highly organized city and student work that includes British, Dutch and negro branches. The work in North, East and West Africa is directly under the World's Committee. That in South Africa is under national organization.

Australia. This colonial continent is progressive in its work for women as in all other affairs. Their National Board employs an American National secretary, and two Americans are holding positions as general secretaries of city organizations. A newly organized foreign department is taking its share in the evangelization of non-Christian lands.

Austria-Hungary. A feeble but deeply needed work is conducted among these two nationalities in spite of most hampering racial and ecclesiastical hindrances.

Canada. Work in Canada is almost identical in its development to that of the United States. Its foreign department is especially strong, supporting two secretaries abroad, with a membership of 18,600.

France. In addition to a national city and student work for French women, there are in Paris several branches of the Association for American and English women, and an international student work, whose membership includes students of 26 nations.

Germany. The German work was organized by its pastors, and is under parochial supervision. There are at present in Germany 200,000 members who are especially interested in alleviating the conditions of industrial workers. The daughter of the National President of the Association in Germany has gone this autumn as secretary to Cairo.

Great Britain and Ireland. Association work originated in England in 1855. There are now in the British Association 1,270 branches with a membership of 96,000. Their work is developed along the following lines:

OTHER COUNTRIES AFFILIATED WITH WORLD'S COMMITTEE

For juniors, nurses, teachers, girls in industries, shop girls, telegraph and postal employees (all in government employ), governesses, domestics, "guild of helpers" (i. e. girls of leisure), foreign girls, and the blind. Socially provision is made by Institutes and homes, holiday homes, convalescent homes, travelers' aid, prayer unions, summer camps, conferences, employment and emigration agencies, "thrift" i. e. savings deposit against sickness and burial; and total abstinence. Religious work includes home Bible study, weekly and monthly periodicals, yearly calendar and Bible texts, missionary giving, Bible classes, missionary and evangelistic meetings.

Holland. The Association in Holland, among other activities, provides homes for working women.

Italy. There is an international home in Rome for Association workers, and 44 Italian Associations unite Italy to the World's Work.

Portugal. This Latin country has a scattered work and assists many overworked women in the industries through educational classes and religious care.

Russia. An English secretary was sent by the World's Committee last year to St. Petersburg. The work in Russia will necessarily be difficult and slow of development.

Scandinavia. The four Scandinavian countries—Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland—have developed a strong work for their women in employment, and it is particularly strong in retaining the loyalty of its members who migrate to other lands.

Switzerland. The work in Switzerland is concerned with large groups of women in industrial employ.

Among the islands of the sea where the Association is found are THE WEST INDIES, PENANG, MALTA and THE DUTCH INDIES.

